

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 AID-05 COME-00 EB-07 FRB-03 TRSE-00
XMB-02 OPIC-03 LAB-04 EPG-02 SIL-01 OMB-01 AF-10
ARA-10 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10 IOE-00 /137 W
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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EAID, UNDP
SUBJECT: 24TH UNDP GOVERNING COUNCIL: AGENDA ITEM 4: SIGNIFICANCE
OF DECISION ADOPTED BY GOVERNING COUNCIL

REF: (A) GENEVA 5250; (B) GENEVA 5312; (C) GENEVA 5337;
(D) GENEVA 5354; (E) GENEVA 5360; (F) STATE 153484 (G) GENEVA 5365

1. USDEL BELIEVES THAT DECISION ON UNDP'S ROLE AND ACTIVITIES
ADOPTED BY THIS GOVERNING COUNCIL (FULL TEXT REPORTED REF G)
REPRESENTS SIGNIFICANT STEP FORWARD IN ACHIEVING US OBJECTIVES
FOR MULTILATERAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE. IF WE BUILD ON THIS DECISION
IN OUR PARTICIPATION IN ECOSOC AND THE COMMITTEE ON RESTRUCTURING,
WE FURTHER FEEL THAT WE CAN ACHIEVE A GREATER DEGREE OF COHERENCE
IN THE UN SYSTEM AND IN OUR OWN PARTICIPATION IN UN TECHNICAL
ASSISTANCE, AS WELL AS GO FAR TO MEET OUR PRIORITIES FOR DEVELOP-
MENT ASSISTANCE, INCLUDING BASIC NEEDS.

2. THE DECISION'S IMPORTANCE LIES BOTH IN ITS SUBSTANTIVE CONTENT
AND IN THE DEGREE OF US LEADERSHIP EXERCISED IN ARRIVING AT
CONSENSUS. IN TERMS OF SUBSTANCE, THE FOLLOWING FEATURES CAN BE
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HIGHLIGHTED:

--STRONG AND UNEQUIVOCAL LANGUAGE ON THE CENTRAL FUNDING AND
SUBSTANTIVE COORDINATION ROLE OF UNDP IN THE ENTIRE UN DEVELOPMENT
SYSTEM;

--STRONG LANGUAGE ON THE NEED FOR INCREASING ASSISTANCE FOR PRO-

GRAMS BENEFITTING THE POOR;

--GUIDELINES FOR THE ADMINISTRATOR TO CONSULT WITH THE AGENCIES REGARDING THE CONTENT AND COORDINATION OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND REGARDING SPECIFIC WAYS OF ACHIEVING THIS, E.G., THROUGH PLANNING, APPRAISAL AND EVALUATION FUNCTIONS;

--ADOPTION OF LANGUAGE (SUPPORTING THE US POSITION IN RESTRUCTURING) ON THE NEED TO HARMONIZE BUDGETARY, PERSONNEL, FINANCIAL AND PLANNING PROCEDURES IN THE UN DEVELOPMENT SYSTEM;

--STRONG LANGUAGE ON COHERENCE;

--RECOGNITION OF THE NEED TO ARRIVE AT MORE EQUITABLE SHARING OF THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR FUNDING THE PROGRAM; AND

--CERTAINLY NOT LEAST OF ALL, A MECHANISM, IN THE FORM OF THE SPECIAL RESERVE, BY WHICH WE CAN INTRODUCE INTO THE PROGRAM IN THE FUTURE EMPHASIS ON OUR PRIORITY CONCERNs, ESPECIALLY BASIC NEEDS.

3. THE DECISION THUS REPRESENTS NOT ONLY THE ACHIEVEMENT BY THE US AND SOME OTHERS OF OUR INTENTION TO BOLSTER THE OPERATIVE MACHINERY OF UNDP, TO PROVIDE IT WITH NEW IMPETUS AND DIRECTION, AND TO PLACE ON RECORD OUR OWN PROGRAMMATIC PRIORITIES WITHIN THE UN DEVELOPMENT SYSTEM AS A WHOLE, BUT IT ALSO ARMS THE ADMINISTRATOR WITH A POWERFUL MANDATE WITH WHICH TO CONTINUE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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DISCUSSIONS WITH THE AGENCIES, THE GOVERNING COUNCIL -- AND ESPECIALLY THE MAJOR DONORS -- HAVE PLACED ON RECORD THEIR INTENTION TO DEMAND COHERENCE AND COORDINATION AND THE EFFECTIVE AND EFFICIENT DELIVERY OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FROM THE UN DEVELOPMENT SYSTEM; AND, SIGNIFICANTLY, TO ESTABLISH FIRMLY UNDP'S CENTRAL ROLE IN REALIZING THESE OBJECTIVES.

4. THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE DECISION TAKES ON WIDER DIMENSIONS WHEN VIEWED IN TERMS OF THE US ROLE IN PROMPTING ITS ACCEPTANCE BY THE GOVERNING COUNCIL. BUILDING ON THE THEMES INTRODUCED BY GOVERNOR GILLIGAN, AND POINTING TO HIS VERY PRESENCE HERE AS AN INDICATION OF FUTURE INTENTIONS, WE HAMMERED HOME THE POINT THAT WE ARE NOW EMBARKED ON A SERIOUS COURSE OF DEMANDING COHERENCE AND COORDINATION IN THE UN DEVELOPMENT SYSTEM; AND THAT, AS WE PURSUE THIS COURSE CONSISTENTLY THROUGHOUT THE UN, WE WILL ALSO INSIST ON SOME BASIC DEVELOPMENTAL PRIORITIES. AFTER SOME INITIAL SKEPTICISM ABOUT OUR OFT-REPEATED EMPHASIS ON US POLICY COHERENCE HAD DISSIPATED, WE FOUND A REMARKABLE DEGREE OF ENTHUSIASM FOR (A) OUR ASSUMPTION OF LEADERSHIP; (B) OUR RENEWED COMMITMENT TO PURSUE CONSISTENT POLICIES IN THE UN REGARDING COHERENCE AND COORDINATION, AND (C) EVEN THE THRUST OF OUR PRIORITY THEMES, INCLUDING BASIC NEEDS. ON THIS LAST POINT, WE MADE IT QUITE

CLEAR THAT THIS GOAL WOULD BE PURSUED VIGOROUSLY AND CONSISTENTLY
THROUGHOUT OUR BILATERAL AND MULTILATERAL ASSISTANCE ACTIVITIES.

5. THE STAGE THUS SET, WE BELIEVE IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT THE US
TAKE IMMEDIATE STEPS TO FOLLOW UP AND BUILD ON THIS DECISION AS
WE ENTER THE 63RD ECOSOC AND CONTINUE THE RESTRUCTURING EXERCISE.
WE HOPE THAT WE CAN ACHIEVE A MORE COHERENT INTERNAL STRUCTURE
BY WHICH TO MAINTAIN A CONSISTENT US APPROACH IN ALL UN FORA.
MORE IMPORTANT, WE HOPE THAT THE THEMES INTRODUCED IN THIS DECISION
CAN BE ARGUED FORCEFULLY AND PERSUASIVELY OVER THE COMING MONTHS.
SUCH A COHERENT US STRUCTURE AND POLICY POSITION WILL, WE BELIEVE,
GO FAR IN ACHIEVING THE MULTILATERAL DEVELOPMENT GOALS ENUNCIATED
BY THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION AND THE CONGRESS.SORENSEN

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